

Friends

Bulletin

Pacific Yearly Meeting
of Friends

VOL. 24, NO. 7

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER, 1956

Pacific Yearly Meeting of Friends

held near La Honda, California, August 15 to 19, 1956

Epistle

To Friends Everywhere:

Dear Friends,

Each morning we have watched the temporal smoke rise from the fireplace in the lodge against the majestic spires of the great redwood trees, and we have sought the still small voice of God in our midst.

In our seeking we have tried to realize that "there are no situations where love is not needed." We have asked ourselves whether we have in the Society of Friends something which rituals can not replace. We have asked ourselves also whether Friends are faithful in working out in their daily lives the implications of the light we have received.

Are we aware that it is not primarily our activities, but the cohesive power of the Holy Spirit which draws us together?

Do we share our spiritual needs with one another, realizing them to be of equal value with our spiritual riches?

Do Friends remain tender in their concerns and seeking, in the knowledge that only thus can come unity and light?

With full hearts we reach out to Friends around the world, praying that our seeking together may bring a blessing to our troubled world.

On behalf of Pacific Yearly Meeting of Friends,
RUTH SCHMOE, clerk

Young Friends Epistle

To Young Friends Everywhere:

We send you sincere greetings and thanks for your epistles which were so full of concerns and interests which we share with you.

Of primary interest to us was the problem of Race Relations and the Friends Peace Testimony. Through discussion, we discovered that to meet these concerns we must start with ourselves. By bringing together our experiences we can learn which attitudes help to develop a way of life, which will better prepare us to meet these concerns.

We hope, through the coming years, to share with you the carrying out of these and other concerns.

WILLIAM ACORD,
Young Friends Clerk

Minutes

The tenth annual session of Pacific Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends and the 26th annual session of the Pacific Coast Association of Friends, gathered at the San Francisco Y.M.C.A. Camp near La Honda, California, opened its first session Wednesday evening, August 15, 1956, with a meeting for worship, following which the clerk spoke these words:

We have come together to search for a more nearly complete wholeness of life. As Brother Lawrence said:

"All things are possible to him who believes;

They are less difficult to him who hopes;

They are easy to him who loves, and simple to any who can do all three."

May God's spirit lead us in this search together.

These Friends were introduced: Lewis Hoskins, executive secretary of the American Friends Service Committee, and his father, Hervey Hoskins, members of Newberg Monthly Meeting (Lewis Hoskins reminded us that since he has never severed connection with Shanghai Monthly Meeting he has a special relationship

to Pacific Yearly Meeting); Horace and Laurette Stubbs of New York Monthly Meeting (Horace Stubbs is retiring clerk of New York Yearly Meeting); Mildred McAllister, clerk of Salt Lake City Meeting; Bunty Wright and Joyce Millwood, two English girls who are going around the world and are new members of San Francisco Meeting.

The meeting followed the new plan of presenting consolidated reports of the state of the society by groupings of Monthly Meetings in the various areas.

1) Arizona—New Mexico section of Southwest Half-Yearly Meeting, John Salyer reporting.

2) Southern California section of Southwest Half-Yearly Meeting, Ferner Nuhn reporting.

3) College Park Quarterly Meeting, William James reporting, with Annabelle Willson reporting separately for San Jose.

4) Northwest Half-Yearly Meeting, Margaret Lorenz reporting.

5) Argenta Meeting, John Stevenson reporting.

6) Honolulu Monthly Meeting, Christopher Nicholson reporting.

Together with the usual activity and many projects, most of our Meetings reported their sense of need for deepening the life of the spirit. Possible means spoken of were ministry in the meeting for worship, the increase of vocal prayer in our worship, education for membership, care of children, retreats, discipline of our inner resources. One Meeting, out of experience, spoke this simple word, "From faithfulness comes unity."

The clerk told us that our member in Shanghai has been released from prison.

The remaining reports on the state of the society were given the following morning.

Bob Barns announced a concern for veterans with pacifist convictions.

The reading clerk read from three Epistles: from Monteverde Monthly Meeting, Costa Rica, Fritchley General Meeting of Friends (England), New York Yearly Meeting (United).

The meeting closed with worship in which we were asked, "Are we sensitive to daily opportunities?" We were reminded that the Society of Friends is built on the rock; that the love of God upholds us.

* * *

Thursday morning, August 16

After an opening period of worship, the reading clerk read from Epistles from Philadelphia Yearly Meeting in its first gathering as a reunited Yearly Meeting, Western Yearly Meeting, Baltimore Yearly Meeting (Homewood) and Baltimore Yearly Meeting (Stony Run).

The presiding clerk introduced Stuart and Marian Innerst of First Friends Church, Pasadena, under California Yearly Meeting.

The state of society reports continued with these Meetings:

1) Salt Lake City, Mildred McAllister reporting.

2) Whittier Area, Lynd Warren reporting.

3) Fresno Worship Group, Walter Lohans reporting.

No one was present to report from Flagstaff, Mexico City, Shanghai, Villa Street or Whittier Unprogrammed Meeting.

Kathleen Bell gave the report from Northwest Half-Yearly Meeting on the status of Argenta Monthly Meeting. Argenta is part of Kootenay Friends Fellowship, but membership of Argenta in Northwest Half-Yearly Meeting is still in a state of suspense. In the discussion which followed, John Stevenson said they would like to belong but doubt the value of membership when participation in meetings is not possible for geographic and financial reasons. It is because of this doubt that they have raised the question of the nature of a half-yearly or quarterly meeting.

The clerk read the report of action of the Interim Committee meeting of March 17, 1956:

Meeting on Ministry and Oversight. It was decided that on the afternoon before the opening of Yearly Meeting there would be a meeting for mutual sharing of all present who are members of the Ministry and Oversight Committees (or the groups performing a similar function) for their Meetings. It was felt that any specific suggestions for action should come from this group rather than from the Interim Committee. Olivia Davis will act as convenor.

Appointments. Due to an omission in the report of the Nominating Committee, appointments were continued until next Yearly Meeting:

A.F.S.C.—Robert Young.

F.C.N.L. — Georges Weber, Elinor Ashkenazy, Lois Barton, Stanley Shaw.

F.W.C.—William James, Leslie Spelman.

F.W.C., Pacific Rim Committee—Ed Sanders.

Nominating Committee. Margaret Simkin, Patricia Stewart, and John Salyer were named as members of the committee for two years. The committee is to present nominations at next Yearly Meeting for Friends to attend the 1957 All American Friends Conference.

New Meetings. Eugene Preparative Meeting applied to be recognized as a Monthly Meeting and was referred to Northwest Half-Yearly Meeting, because this would be a division of Willamette Valley Monthly Meeting into two Meetings.

Salt Lake City Friends wish to apply for Preparative Meeting status. This is under consideration by College Park Quarterly Meeting.

Doukhobors. A letter was read presenting the concern of Argenta Monthly Meeting that a representative of Friends should not be working with the Canadian government in forcing Doukhobors to go to school against their will. After lengthy discussion, a letter was written, which was accepted by the Interim Committee to be sent to Argenta Meeting.

The clerk then read the letter to Argenta Meeting sent by the Interim Committee in its March meeting:

Dear Friends:

The Interim Committee has considered your letter thoughtfully and at considerable length, and we concur in these points:

We share your misgivings over a public statement on your part. We feel that it would be misused to bring a great harm in a very difficult situation. We

appreciate your struggle to find an answer and a way to carry out your concern.

We feel that what Emmet Gulley does can be left to his conscience and trust him to remain in his work only as long as he feels clear to do so. We understand that he is not acting for the American Friends Service Committee or the Society of Friends, but is acting as a person who happens also to be a Friend. We believe further that he himself has not participated in the enforcement program. It is not our understanding that the Society of Friends as such has taken or could take a position or any action *vis a vis* the British Columbia government's school law enforcement program.

We pray that Friends may be humble and not sit in judgment. We suggest that you speak privately with the Sons of Freedom and avoid the public statement that could be exploited.

We send you our love and hope to see you at Yearly Meeting and discuss this further with you if necessary.

The clerk said that since then we have received a letter from Stephen Cary saying that we were mistaken in thinking Emmett Gulley was not then working for the two Service Committees; but that as of June 1, his work for them has terminated.

The Yearly Meeting wished this sentence added to this report: "We reaffirm our appreciation of and trust in Emmett Gulley."

The clerk read the letter from Herbert Jones of San Jose, California, relative to the Home for Elderly Friends.

John Beamish left \$3,000 to the College Park Monthly Meeting to be used, if additional support could be obtained, for the establishment of an Old People's Home for Friends.

Obviously, the amount of the Beamish bequest by itself is totally inadequate to establish such a home, but it was hoped by John Beamish that the fund he left by his will would serve as an incentive for contribution by others.

In the intervening years since John Beamish passed away, there has been occasional mention of this bequest, but nothing forthcoming to supplement it. Several questions present themselves in connection with this project:

1) Is there sufficient demand, among Friends in the West, for such a Home?

2) Should it provide simply for living accommodations, without nursing or medical attention?

3) If there is no supplemental support among Friends, would it be feasible to seek to join with a home established by some other denomination, or by some group such as school teachers?

4) If established, where should it be located, having in mind the undoubted desire of the occupants to be near friends and acquaintances?

The clerk read the Interim Committee report of August 15, including announcement of the place and time of the 1957 Yearly Meeting. The report follows:

The meeting opened at 9:30 a.m. with a period of worship.

1) The report of the Committee of Oversight of Northwest Half-Yearly Meeting over Eugene Preparative Meeting was read. The recommendation that Eugene Meeting become a Monthly Meeting of Pacific Yearly Meeting was approved. The Oversight Committee appointed by Northwest Half-Yearly Meeting, consisting of Russell and Beulah Thornburg and Grace Lawrence was asked to serve for the Yearly Meeting.

2) A letter from Whittier Area Friends Meeting was read. There was a report from the committee of Los Angeles Friends Meeting who visited this meeting and

discussed with them their desire to become a Preparative Meeting of Los Angeles Monthly Meeting. It was suggested that Los Angeles Friends continue their association with this meeting and visit Friends in both the programmed and unprogrammed meetings of First Friends Church in Whittier in order that the relationship may be worked out in a way satisfactory to all.

3) There was a report on the meeting in Denver. Denver Friends were encouraged to make an effort to visit members and Meetings of Pacific Yearly Meeting. The Visitation Committee was asked to arrange visits to both Denver and Boulder Meetings.

4) The Oversight Committee of Delta Meeting reported growth in the life of the Meeting.

5) Jane Baumann, Clarence Cunningham and Lois Barton were asked to serve on the Epistle Committee.

6) In the absence of regularly appointed members, Paul Johnson, John Ullman, Ellis Jump, Charles Gritzer and Dorothy Murray were asked to serve on the Finance Committee.

7) Harold Carson and Olivia Davis were asked to serve on the Nominating Committee during Yearly Meeting.

8) It was suggested that each Meeting be responsible for memorials to be sent to the Yearly Meeting following the death of a member.

9) The Yearly Meeting records have been sorted and the more important records are to be stored in the strong box which the Yearly Meeting shares with Berkeley Monthly Meeting.

10) The report of the Arrangements Committee for Yearly Meeting in 1957 was approved. It will be from August 21 to 25 inclusive, at Linfield College in McMinnville, Oregon.

11) The Committee of Arrangements for 1958 will be Leslie Spelman, Bob Vogel, and Edith Sperry.

12) In the Interim Committee report on the Doukhobors for March 17, 1956, it was stated in reference to Emmett Gulley, "We understand that he is not acting for the American Friends Service Committee or the Society of Friends." This was in error at that time, though it is now true.

13) The Yearly Meeting minutes of page 4 of the October, 1955, *Bulletin* should be corrected to read, "In the discussion it was brought out that while we may complain of too much independence of the Society of Friends on the part of the A.F.S.C., Meetings often expect the Service Committee to do what we should do for ourselves; that the desirable relationship is found in the word 'concern' and personnel should be made up more than it is of Friends liberated for service. Still, the trend is away from projects fitting the talents of available Friends and toward training in social work."

14) The appointment of Mary Acord and Ben Seaver as representatives to the Conference on Race Relations was approved. It is to be held in Wilmington, Ohio, on Labor Day week end.

15) Olivia Davis will be doorkeeper for the sessions of Yearly Meeting. Ralph Pinney will be responsible for giving announcements.

The Yearly Meeting APPROVED the recommendations of the Interim Committee.

The change of Eugene Meeting from Preparative to Monthly Meeting was APPROVED.

The report of the Meeting on Ministry and Oversight was read. It was ACCEPTED with the change of the word "seasoned" to "weighty." The report follows:

Members of Monthly Meeting committees on Ministry and Oversight met yesterday to consider together our common problems and responsibilities. We recognize that nothing takes the place of individual commitment and concern, but we feel strongly the value of this sharing together and would like to see some means arranged to see that it continues.

Since the quality of the spiritual life and the good ordering of our Meetings concerns all of us, we recom-

ment to the Yearly Meeting that there be included in the regular committee structure a small Committee on Ministry and Oversight, possibly six weighty Friends, whose duties and function would include the following:

1) Providing a focus for problems specifically relating to ministry and oversight.

2) Convening of at least an annual gathering of members of Monthly Meeting committees of ministry and oversight at Yearly Meeting time.

3) Implementing requests from individual Monthly Meetings for counsel with "seasoned" Friends who might be liberated by their Meetings for that purpose. We suggest that the Yearly Meeting consider providing some funds for use of Friends who may be asked to visit Meetings in this connection.

Phillip Wells raised the question whether we want a small executive committee or a larger group, such as other Yearly Meetings have, made up from Monthly Meetings. The Meeting AGREED to refer to the Nominating Committee the naming of six Friends to serve as an executive committee of the Meeting on Ministry and Oversight of the Yearly Meeting.

The treasurer's report was given by Robert Simkin, who spoke particularly of missing Vern James from the committee. The report is included with these minutes.

The Meeting approved Floyd Schmoë's suggestion of sending the balance of the money for the Shanghai family to them for their needs in Japan. The clerk read from a letter to us from London Yearly Meeting about our Friends in Shanghai.

Phillip Wells reported on the meeting of the Planning Committee for the Friends in the Americas Conference of the Friends World Committee, June 26 to July 3, 1957, in Wilmington, Ohio. The theme is to be "Growing in the Experience of God," with the sub-title, "A Call to Face the Implications of Our Faith." Apropos of his report on a discussion of how to encourage non-conformity, Phillip Wells commented that we are not conforming or non-conforming; we should do what the Light leads us to do whether it is one or the other, and feel comfortable. He said that we are asked to suggest a speaker from the West to be one of three, and also to suggest names for discussion leaders.

Phillip Wells introduced the report of the Discipline Committee on the creation of our own Discipline. He said in part: We have to look at our life and its crises from the mountain top as God does, but also as humans we look at a piece at a time; and a part of loving man is to do this with patience. One of the unique things about Friends is that we have counted on what we do to speak more loudly than words. Therefore the committee has begun with *practice* rather than a statement of *faith*. We shall have difficulty in putting what we believe into words but if we love and seek to know one another we can reach real communication through these symbols. The committee had thought that we might be able to print the mimeographed material on our procedures without having, at present, a statement on faith. Also,

we need more on the history of the Society of Friends as a whole; we could include several statements about our religious basis; the description of a meeting for worship should come out of our own experience; the meeting for business should be fully described. Some things are left out of this tentative revision because there is no need to repeat them again; e.g., the Queries and Advices, and our testimony on war and peace. They would be included or the Queries of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting referred to.

There was some discussion of words. "Handbook" instead of "Discipline" was suggested, but the DECISION WAS MADE to keep the word "Discipline." It was said that it is time we grew up and had our own discipline. We should revise this proposed revision as *Practice*, accept it and move on to *Faith*, so that Pacific Yearly Meeting will have its own *Faith and Practice*. It was added in the discussion that Friends are troubled that we must agree on practice while we have not yet formulated a statement of faith.

The Yearly Meeting APPROVED the proposal that we print the title of Section I of *Faith* with a note referring readers for the time being to the Philadelphia statement while our own is in preparation and that we print and use a revised section on *Practice*.

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Thursday afternoon, August 16

The special meeting on "The American Friends Service Committee, its Present Concerns and its Relation to Pacific Yearly Meeting," convened at four o'clock, with Catherine Bruner, one of the two representatives to the Service Committee, presiding. The chairman suggested two divisions of the subject: the high-lights of new development in A.F.S.C. work; and our organizational relation to the A.F.S.C. She remarked that our real relation is with regional offices in our area and that consequently the formal relation we have means little. Certainly there can be no Yearly Meeting with a higher proportion of members active in A.F.S.C. projects and we, least of all need intermediaries.

Lewis Hoskins then spoke to these subjects, describing the conference for young diplomats then in progress, new interest in Africa, the work in Kunsan, Korea, from which the A.F.S.C. will soon withdraw with the hope that a Friends Center with a Friends family might remain, social and technical assistance in India, work at the United Nations, and material aids which Austria, Italy and Japan ask to have continued. On the domestic scene race relations are the predominant issue. The Service Committee is organizing a working party to develop a statement on matters of race. Civil liberties and problems of rights of conscience touch the A.F.S.C. more and more closely. The contract they have with the government in the field of technical assistance is to be renegotiated and

the government is proposing to reserve the right to pass on Service Committee personnel sent overseas. The Indian government already has approved A.F.S.C. procedure and will finance the program out of funds contributed by the United States. The Service Committee Board feels it cannot agree to the Government's passing on personnel selected by the A.F.S.C., but is still hoping to reach an acceptable agreement with the government.

The Service Committee also finds itself in danger of colliding with the government over the names of grantees who have received Fund for the Republic Funds through the A.F.S.C. Some of these the A.F.S.C. holds are confidential; but if, being subpoenaed by a Congressional committee, they refuse information, they can be held in contempt of Congress and sent to prison. Lewis Hoskins asked for the counsel and prayers of Friends in this matter.

Out of the silent consideration which followed this appeal Friends expressed their profound fellow-feeling with the staff and Board of the Service Committee and their sense that they cannot advise others to do something unless they can share it, or simply because for themselves it might be right. We were reminded that Friends in their whole history have been familiar with the inside of prisons; but Friends rightly face prison only when it is a consequence of faithfulness to the Light Within.

On organization, Lewis Hoskins briefly described the Corporation, Board and Representative Council of the A.F.S.C. Lewis Hoskins and Ed Sanders both spoke of the relation of this Yearly Meeting to the A.F.S.C. through the regional offices and our work with them. Ed Sanders expressed the hope that a new organizational relation can develop through this work.

* * *

Thursday evening, August 16

The reading clerk read from Epistles of Japan Yearly Meeting of Friends; Illinois Yearly Meeting; Iowa Yearly Meeting (Whittier, Iowa); Ohio Yearly Meeting (Conservative); Wilmington Yearly Meeting; and New England Yearly Meeting, together with letters from Margaret Gibbins, and Wilbur Hoff who is now working in the community self-help program in India.

The clerk turned the meeting over to Ferner Nuhn, who had been appointed to lead a discussion of Yearly Meeting concerns under these three heads: 1) Sons of Freedom of the Doukhobors; 2) conscience and peace; 3) race relations. Ferner Nuhn read the list of concerns sent in by Monthly Meetings as follows: race relations (La Jolla and Santa Fe); militarism in public schools (Phoenix); amnesty for C.O's, alternative laws for pacifists (Palo Alto); disarmament and peaceful uses of atomic energy, provision for service opportunities (University, Seattle); concern that Yearly Meeting not act as a pressure group politically (San Francisco);

concern for keeping the promises made at Geneva regarding our foreign policy (Santa Monica); Sons of Freedom, Doukhobors (Argenta); home for elderly Friends (College Park, San Jose), this last to be discussed at the special session of those interested.

Three persons had been asked to speak on the Doukhobors. Richard Broughton introduced the subject with a history of the Doukhobors in Canada, who now divide into three groups: Orthodox, Sons of Freedom, and Independents. The immediate crisis is due to the testimony against education on the part of the Sons of Freedom. Ferner Nuhn next called on Hugh Campbell-Brown, who said there are eighteen thousand Doukhobors in Canada, of whom only two thousand present a problem. He feels that our concern should be with Emmett Gully who, in the course of years of living with the problem, has come to see that there is no easy solution. "There is a twilight zone where divine irrationality fades into psychotic irrationality." Emmett Gully received no support from Friends when he needed it. He has stopped stupid police activities and the violence of government. If he withdraws, police action will return. He needs now our sympathetic and informed understanding and love. John Stevenson, who next was called on, said that he questions whether it is the place of Friends to cooperate with government in coercion; Friends should seek a solution in love which appeals to the Light that all have within them. Friends have traditionally sought non-violent solutions and should start visiting to extend the hand of friendship. We have allowed the problem to grow for fifty years and it cannot be solved overnight. Friends could cooperate with the two other groups of Doukhobors to set up a school which in two generations might show the Sons of Freedom the worth of education. Richard Broughton closed the presentation with more facts: The children, more than seventy at present, are at New Denver School; they can be picked up at the age of seven and kept until they are sixteen; after their parents visit on Sunday hysteria follows on Monday among both parents and children. He quoted Tolstoy, "There is no situation where love is not needed."

Paul Johnson spoke on the case of Orange Grove Meeting and the California non-disloyalty oath, calling the situation a long-run danger for all Friends Meetings in California. After hearing the arguments before the Supreme Court he is sure that this is a real effort to control the religious faith of churches.

George MacNichols presented the concern from Palo Alto Meeting for conscientious objectors, that is, to get amnesty for all men who have been convicted or are in prison. He read the minute from Palo Alto Meeting on the duties of conscience, in which they urge the forma-

tion of committees in other Meetings. They have presented this matter to College Park Quarterly Meeting which wrote a letter to President Eisenhower asking amnesty. It was now presented to Yearly Meeting for monthly Meetings to take action on. The question was asked: What is the AFSC doing? Ben Seaver answered that while they have done nothing directly they have cooperated with the National Service Board for Religious Objectors and the Central Committee for Conscientious Objectors. There are 6,000 conscientious objectors classed as felons; at present there are about six in prison. Consideration of this subject was closed with the thought that the time has come for Monthly Meetings over the country to act.

On race relations: Cecil Thomas spoke of his trip to Montgomery, Alabama, with six others (four of the seven being Friends) to see especially the Rev. Martin Luther King who is leading the non-violent struggle against segregation on the buses. He quoted Mr. King as saying, "There is a brand new Negro in the South with a new sense of dignity and destiny." The travelers met the white religious leaders who are helping with the car pool in Montgomery. Stephen Thiermann began his talk with the comment that we need economy in the use of the word "concern" so he was communicating information. He talked on agricultural laborers of whom there are 125,000 in California, Indians and the problems of relocation, and open occupancy housing.

John Ullman spoke of the proposed conference on race relations over Labor Day week-end to which Mary Acord and Ben Seaver are going as Yearly Meeting representatives. Koinonia Community and its sufferings were described by Herbert Foster.

The whole discussion stressed the complexity and delicacy of the situation and our need to get away from untruth and unlove.

The decision was made to hold a special meeting the next day on the Sons of Freedom following another special meeting on the home for elderly Friends.

At the close Cecil Thomas showed his pictures of the trip to Montgomery.

* * *

Friday morning, August 17

The Friday morning session opened with a meeting for worship after which the reading clerk read a letter from London Yearly Meeting addressed to Pacific Yearly Meeting which gave us a special sense of nearness to them, and also from the epistle of London Yearly Meeting.

The clerk called on Frances Thompson, chairman of the Education Committee, who introduced the topic of education by referring to the description of the Education Committee in the Discipline. She spoke of these objectives: a secondary school, to educate others, and to educate Friends to live in the world as it is and as

it ought to be. She read the reports from Pacific Oaks and Pacific Ackworth Schools. The question was asked whether California Yearly Meeting is also interested in a Friends' school.

On First-day schools, the report from San Fernando was read and was supplemented by a description of visits to a Buddhist church and a Hebrew synagogue, which brought the question: If we study other religions what is the object of establishing Friends' schools which are actually in effect segregated schools? Are we afraid that our religion is not strong enough? Do we have an obligation to keep the public schools good which we would be failing?

Frances Thompson spoke of Sidwell School in Washington which has only now accepted a Negro child. She said some think Friends' schools should accept problem children or should be pilot projects.

Frances Thompson read the minute from Multnomah County Friends Meeting proposing action by the Yearly Meeting to set up an education fund to help travel of children to Friends' schools in the East. Ellis Jump spoke to this: Since in the establishing of a school in the West geography seems insuperable and no one area has the resources to set up a school or even to maintain one class, the \$3,000 to \$4,000 we could raise might best be used on travel of our children to already established schools. Those schools need more Friends' children and have scholarships available. In the discussion Edwin Morgenroth said: If these scholarships are available let us use them without more ado. What is now our reason for establishing a school? Our situation is very different from that of the Friends who started Westtown. "As a Quaker I have a duty to participate in public education which is far more difficult than to teach in comfort in Westtown." Others said: Quaker education and religious education are in the home. Some of this is wishing that our children could have what our spiritual grandparents had. We still need to think in terms of living in the 20th century. Quaker public school teachers have something to offer. Cecil Thomas said he would like to see a sub-committee of the Education Committee set up to study the alternatives of Friends' school vs. participation in public schools which are good or could be made good. What do we do to work Friends' ideas into the schools that we have? Others agreed that they do not want to send their teen-agers 3,000 miles away. We were reminded Honolulu will soon be closer to us than Westtown.

Frances Thompson read the questions for small group discussion but the meeting approved postponing the proposed breaking up into buzz groups, a technique of social dynamics, to discuss the minute from Multnomah County Meeting in Yearly Meeting session.

After a break, the Clerk suggested that we

clarify our position on undertaking projects. Our policy has been not to start projects, but we do establish travel funds. Our policy is this because of the practical fact of geographic distance and it is the part of wisdom to leave projects to local groups.

Young Friends who had come in during the break and who had attended Friends' schools were asked to tell what they had found good in the schools. Students from Scattergood, George School, and Westtown answered. In summary, Frances Thompson remarked that the only thing that came out of the answers as unique with Friends was religious education and courses in Quakerism.

Francis Dart offered this summary: Two points of view are in conflict within us. We are a community of Friends, but also citizens

of the whole community in which we live. We are interested in how we can get the best education for our children, and also in how we can improve our whole community, our children working along with us. This question was put to the young people: Should we be interested in changing the Pacific Coast where we live by a Friends' school which might offer such pilot projects as George School's affiliation plan, or by improving the public schools; or should we be interested in the best education for our children? This was followed by a description by Harriet Schaffran of good public schools in Richmond, California, in which there is neither segregation nor snobbery.

No conclusion was reached as to what choice we should make and no action was taken on the minute from Multnomah County Friends Meeting.

PACIFIC YEARLY MEETING STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

August, 1955 to August, 1956

Balance, General Fund	\$2087.84
Balance, Shanghai Family Fund	79.95
Balance, Bulletin Account	251.77
Subscriptions, Bulletin	1220.60
Religious Education in the Home Bulletin Account	160.45

From Meetings for:	General Account	Shanghai Family
Honolulu	\$ 25.00	\$ 20.00
Argenta	48.00	
Vancouver	65.00	10.00
Victoria	64.00	5.00
Seattle	484.00	25.00
Tacoma		15.00
Willamette Valley	200.00	15.00
Delta	40.00	
Sacramento		5.00
Berkeley	286.00	20.00
San Francisco	160.00	25.00
Palo Alto	264.00	50.00
San Jose	80.00	10.00
Monterey	64.20	10.00
San Fernando	72.00	10.00
Santa Monica	108.00	10.00
La Jolla	75.00	25.00
Los Angeles	136.00	
Orange Grove	735.00	
Claremont	140.00	25.00
Riverside-Redlands	61.18	5.00
Tucson	141.00	
Phoenix	112.00	25.00
Albuquerque	108.00	10.00
Santa Fe	150.00	25.00
Mexico City	40.00	10.00
	<u>\$3658.38</u>	<u>3658.38</u>
		355.00

From Individuals	65.00
Membership Forms	1.50
Refund, Unused Visitation	94.35
Refund, 1955 Prescott Committee	10.00
Interest, Metropolitan Savings & Loan	13.24
	<u>\$7944.08</u>

Bulletin Account:	Bulletin	Religious Education	
Salary			1200.00
Printing	734.72	204.72	
Office, Mailing, etc.	259.96	4.05	
	<u>994.68</u>		994.68
		208.77	208.77

Yearly Meeting Treasurer Account:	
Clerk & Secretary Expenses	105.00
Education Committee	70.00
Discipline Revision Committee	21.18
Friends World Committee	250.00
Safe Deposit Equipment at Berkeley	95.00
Travel of Delegates to Conferences	551.00
Travel of Officers to Interim & Yearly Meeting	179.00

Travel of Delegates:	To Interim	To Yearly Mtg.	
Honolulu		140.00	
Argenta		48.00	
Vancouver		42.20	
Victoria		42.20	
Seattle	34.20	36.40	
Willamette Valley	24.00	29.00	
San Fernando	15.40	14.40	
Santa Monica	16.00	14.80	
La Jolla	20.40	20.00	
Los Angeles	16.40	15.20	
Orange Grove	16.00	14.80	
Claremont	16.80	16.00	
Riverside-Redlands		17.20	
Tucson		36.60	
Phoenix	34.00	32.00	
Albuquerque		45.20	
Santa Fe		47.60	
	<u>193.20</u>		193.20
		611.60	611.60

Deposit, YMCA Camp, La Honda	50.00
Shanghai Family	434.95
Balance, Bulletin Account	175.37
Balance, Yearly Meeting Treasurer	2804.33
	<u>\$7944.08</u>

ROBERT L. SIMKIN, treasurer

Friday afternoon, August 17

Special Meeting On the Home For Elderly Friends: A special session met to consider the report of the committee which had been appointed by the Interim Committee to obtain information about possibilities for a home for elderly Friends.

Ruth Schooler reported that quite a few interested people had already met together. She and Marjorie and Georges Weber reported on plans of San Jose Friends, working through their Quarterly Meeting, to use the John Beamish bequest locally. They told of factors which made it urgent for them to take prompt action to secure available property as a new location for the meeting house and a home for elderly Friends, the latter to have a variety of facilities. The need for homes in other areas was expressed and lively interest was shown in the San Jose plans.

This session recommends to the Yearly Meeting that the committee appointed by the Interim Committee be continued, allowing Edith Sperry to be released as she requests, and adding Alice Plympton. We also suggest that other Half-Yearly Meetings, where way opens, appoint committees to work on projects locally. This was approved.

Special Meeting On The Sons Of Freedom: Following concern which has been voiced regarding the forcible schooling of children of the Sons of Freedom group in British Columbia and the instrumentality of Emmet Gulley in advising the British Columbia Government on its policy in this regard, Richard Broughton, Hugh Campbell-Brown, John Stevenson and Dorwin Cook gave the meeting some information regarding the situation. The meeting expressed its interest in the situation but felt that it was difficult problem whose solution could only be met by the efforts of dedicated Friends whose work would have to continue over many years. At this stage the meeting felt unable to undertake such a commitment but expressed continuing concern.

Session On Social Concerns: The presiding clerk called on Ferner Nuhn to introduce again the topic of our social concerns. He quoted George Fox, "Let your lives speak, and then you may walk cheerfully over the earth . . ."

Ferner Nuhn asked John Ullman to read these four points sent to Yearly Meetings by Baltimore Yearly Meeting for discussion before the Labor Day week-end Conference on Race Relations:

- 1) Our belief in the worth and dignity of very human life;
- 2) Our difficulty in achieving full unity when this is translated into practical terms involving discrimination and segregation in education, housing, employment and public recreation, and in the practice of religion.
- 3) To seek deeply for spiritual guidance, state clearly our ideals, and be willing to make whatever sacrifice is necessary to achieve them.
- 4) To attempt to see the viewpoint of those on both

sides with charity, understanding, and patience.

The Yearly Meeting treated these as queries, speaking to them one at a time. But since they said the answer to the first depends on that to the second, that answer is given first here. Friends concentrated on housing, speaking of how much some other denominations are doing. The use of the dummy buyer for an ultimate Negro owner was felt by some to be a good approach to housing, involving, as it might, less of violence and insult to the Negro buyer than he might meet otherwise. Others cautioned against the element of deception—"the means we use determine the end we reach."

Answers to the other three points were: we should beware of being "holier than thou"; we should work through the very good organizations already functioning; to acknowledge the worth and dignity of every human life means that we must come to terms with ourselves, that we are concerned with human beings, those who differ with us as well as Negroes and Mexican-Americans; love as seen in Jesus is the effective guide for transforming society.

Ben Seaver, asked to speak on the guidance he had received from the meeting, referred to Gilbert Kilpack's new pamphlet, *Scruples*, saying, "You have to start with the love that moves you, not with scruples."

The Yearly Meeting approved the proposal to send a special letter to the Montgomery Improvement Association conveying our love and approval of their non-violent methods. Bob Barns and Cecil Thomas were appointed to write such a letter.

Floyd Echmoe was asked to present the concern of University Meeting, Seattle, that more opportunities be found for young people wanting to serve, also for mature people whose families are grown. University Meeting has set up a committee on peace and service (which will be reported on next year) to do what the American Friends Service Committee should not be expected to do for Monthly Meetings. The hope is that other Meetings will do the same thing; and perhaps the time come when Yearly Meeting can have such a committee.

* * *

Friday evening, August 17

The evening, given over to Young Friends, opened with a brief time of worship.

The Meeting approved the setting up of a committee for a children's program, to work with the Arrangements Committee for next Yearly Meeting, and referred the creation of the committee to the Budget and Nominating Committees.

Bill Acord, chairman of the Young Friends group, read from the epistle from New England Young Friends Yearly Meeting expressing their special awareness of the peace testimony. Our young people feel unity with these young Friends in their statement of problems.

The pattern of the evening, as it developed, involved questions from older Friends and answers from young Friends, all having to do with the experience and wishes of young Friends as members of the Religious Society of Friends.

The Young Friends were in agreement that what they want is to be considered and treated as a part of Meeting and not to be set apart and patted on the head as "fine children." They want instruction on the Quaker way and the peace testimony. Particularly the boys, facing the draft, ask for counselling and support from older Friends, although they also recognize that decision must come according to the Light enlightening every conscience.

The Young Friends wish there were more of them and find the social organizations of larger denominations attractive but apparently do not wish for the development of a Young Friends' Meeting functioning apart from an adult Yearly Meeting.

At the close of the discussion Ed Sanders, referring to the song, "Show Me" from *My Fair Lady*, said in effect to the young people: When the words are said and learned, still it must be "show me". Ask older people to show you out of their lives. We older people hope you will show us with your lives. You have a rough time coming and have to prepare for it. We and you don't ask enough of each other.

* * *

Saturday morning, August 18

After a period of worship, the clerk read from epistles from Germany Yearly Meeting and France Yearly Meeting.

Memorials were read by the clerk for E. Roberts Richie and Edith K. Linnett, both of Los Angeles Meeting; Edward Steiner of Claremont Meeting, and Albert Chadwick of Vancouver, B.C., Meeting.

Eubanks Carsner spoke on the report of the Friends World Committee and the sixth session of the committee held at Germantown, Ohio, last fall following the Five Years Meeting.

The clerk read a letter from Herbert M. Hadley, general secretary of the Friends World Committee, addressed to Pacific Yearly Meeting, in which he spoke of our Yearly Meeting as the growing edge of Quakerism, said that as a Society "we are called to an adventure in communication" and invited Pacific Yearly Meeting to send Friends in visitation.

The clerk spoke of returning minutes for Ferner Nuhn and Joan Kirchner.

Madge Seaver presented this minute: We should not have applause in a Friends' meeting for business; first, because we are in the presence of God who listens; second, because applause is given for performance, while we want to give each other deliberate consideration from the least to the most. If we allow applause the clerk will have to measure approval by length

and noise. Madge Seaver closed with the query: Are Friends' meetings conducted in the good order of Friends? The Yearly Meeting APPROVED the minute and the clerk read the appropriate passage from the Philadelphia Discipline.

Lois Barton presented this minute: The clerks should be released from the burden of presiding over or minuting special interest sessions. The minute was APPROVED.

Cecil Thomas and others expressed contrition at the burden we had put on the young people the previous evening.

Phillip Wells introduced discussion of our Discipline by speaking of Augustus Murray and read from Whittier's *Miriam* which, in a sense, through Augustus Murray's study of Whittier, belongs to us. He said that our coming all these distances shows we have something in common but that so far we have had too much talking and not enough of listening.

The Meeting approved going over the Discipline section by section and not sentence by sentence.

Toward the close of the session the Meeting APPROVED this minute on the exercise:

In a difficult session in which we seemed often to forget that we were doing business in the presence of God, and to forget our obligation to bear with one another "we labored along." "We labored along, Divine Love attending," wrote John Woolman; but we obstructed Divine Love and each other. Yet even in these difficulties many agreements were formed and valuable suggestions were made. Members of the Meeting expressed continuing confidence in the Discipline Committee and its ability to bring out an acceptable Discipline. After the recording clerk called for a period of silence, there was during this silence an evidence of sincere desire to find God's will even if necessarily through a process of painful growth.

* * *

Saturday evening, August 18

The Saturday evening session opened with a time of silent worship. Following this the reading clerk read from the epistle of Indiana Yearly Meeting (General Conference), Netherlands Yearly Meeting, Yearly Meeting of Friends in Ireland, Near East Yearly Meeting (Brummana), and a letter from Japan Yearly Meeting.

Floyd Schmoe proposed that since we have some members visiting in Japan, we should name them as our representatives, specifically Ethel Miller, for the 70th anniversary observance of Japan Yearly Meeting. The Meeting APPROVED.

The Meeting APPROVED all the committee reports printed in the Bulletin, and expressed appreciation for the work represented, and its quality.

The clerk called on Robert Simkin to give the Bulletin financial report, which follows:

Bulletin Financial Report

Income:

Balance on hand, August, 1955 ..	\$ 251.77
From Yearly Meeting	1000.00
Contributions	
Bulletin	\$1220.60
Religious Education	106.45

1327.05

Total \$2578.82

Expenses:

Salary	\$1200.00
Printing	
Bulletin	734.72
Religious Education	204.72

939.44

Office (postage, etc.)	
Bulletin	259.96
Religious Education	4.05

264.01

2403.45

Balance on hand 175.37

\$2578.82

Special Account for pamphlet, "Religious Education in the Home" (included in above figures):

Income: \$106.45

Expenses:

Printing	204.72
Postage	4.05

208.77

Less income 106.45

Present deficit, in special account \$102.32

ESTHER C. RICHARDS, editor

Robert Simkin then presented the treasurer's report, explaining the changes due to late bills, etc. The balance of \$434.95 has been sent to the Shanghai family, as directed by the Yearly Meeting, and nothing now remains in the account. Robert Simkin explained his banking practice and asked the wish of the Yearly Meeting. Presentation of the budget brought discussion of the purposes of some of the committees. The Ministry and Oversight Committee serves to counsel Meetings at their request, while the Visitation Committee is for fellowship within and outside of Yearly Meeting, or for special travel like that of Margaret Gibbins and Peggy Church. The Education Committee budget is meant to include money for the children's program at Yearly Meeting. Friends expressed themselves as wanting to see a substantial amount devoted to Young Friends; they do not wish a large reserve. The Meeting approved making Frances Woodson responsible for the purchase of a mimeograph machine for the use of Yearly Meeting.

The Meeting APPROVED the adoption of the budget, as shown, at the close of this discussion. The budget follows:

Yearly Meeting Budget, 1956-57

Receipts:

Balance on hand	\$2804.33
From Monthly Meetings	
(1000 members at \$4)	4000.00
Bulletin subscriptions	1000.00
	7804.33

Expenditures:

Bulletin	2500.00
Clerk & Secretary Expense	150.00
Ministry and Counsel Committee	400.00
Visitation Committee	100.00
Education Committee	100.00
Youth Program	200.00
Friends World Committee	250.00
Travel Expense to	
1956 Race Relations Conference ..	210
1957 All America Conference	900
	1110.00
Travel of Officers and Delegates	
to Interim & Yearly Meeting	1400.00
Mimeograph machine	200.00
1956 Handbook of Discipline	500.00
Reserve	894.33
	\$7804.33

The Meeting APPROVED putting the Yearly Meeting funds into an account or accounts under the name of the Yearly Meeting.

Dorothy Lash, chairman of the Nominating Committee, presented that committee's report, which was approved with some additions. The nominations as approved follow:

Presiding clerk: Catherine Bruner
Recording clerk: Edwin C. Morgenroth
Alternate clerk: Dorothy Lash
Reading clerk: Clarence Cunningham
Treasurer: Robert L. Simkin
Secretary: Mildred M. Burck
Committee on Ministry and Oversight

Ruth Schmoie, *chairman*
 Lois Barton
 Vern James
 Madge Seaver
 Robert L. Simkin
 Jane Baumann
 Robert Vogel

Discipline Committee
 Phillip Wells, *chairman*
 Eubanks Carsner
 Margaret Lorenz
 Asenath Young
 Eleanor Brownell
 Francis Dart
 Robert Dann
 Margaret Jump

Bulletin Committee
 Grace Lawrence, *chairman*
 Esther Richards, *editor*
 Madeleine Stephenson
 John Ullman
 Laura Gritzner
 Dorothy Lash

Finance Committee
 Vern James, *chairman*
 Robert L. Simkin, *treasurer*, ex officio
 Mildred M. Burck, *secretary*, ex officio
 Benjamin Darling
 Neal Lamb
 LaVerne Taylor
 Ellis Jump
 Robert Young
 James Riddles
 Paul Johnson

Dorothy Murray
James Dewees
John Ullman

Education Committee
Frances Thompson, *chairman*
Lois Bailey
Gretchen Rudnick
Dorothy Pinney
Elizabeth Van Dolsen
Alice Way
Beth Prideaux
Fred Allan
Alan Strain
Eleanor Foster

Visitation Committee
Eubanks Carsner, *chairman*
William & Anna James
Stanley & Clara Shaw
John & Anna Dorland
Russell & Mary Jorgensen

Indian Affairs Committee
Albert Kramer, *chairman*
Alice Shoemaker
Lynd Warren
Charles James
Josephine Duveneck
Isabel Bachels
Charles Gritzner

Planning Committee for Children's Program
Monette Thatcher, *chairman* (2 yrs.)
Bob Barns (3 yrs.)
Margaret Jump (3 yrs.)
Molly Morgenroth (3 yrs.)
Leonard Dart (2 yrs.)
Lois Scholl (2 yrs.)
Cecil Thomas (2 yrs.)
George Clauss (1 yr.)
Paul & Crystalle Davis (1 yr.)

Kenya Work Camp
Gretchen Tuthill

A.F.S.C. Representatives
John Salyer (2 yrs.)
Catherine Bruner (1 yr.)

Representatives to F.C.N.L.
Georges Weber
Lois Barton
Eleanor Ashkenazy
Stanley Shaw

Friends World Committee Representatives
Harold Carson (2 yrs.)
Jane Baumann (2 yrs.)
Margaret Simpkin (2 yrs.)
William James (1 yr.)
Leslie Spelman (1 yr.)
Ed Sanders, Pacific Rim Committee (1 yr.)

Delegates to Friends in Americas Conference
Ed & Marian Sanders & family
Harry & Lois Bailey & family
Winifred Clark
Heberto Sein
Vern James, alternate
Mildred Burck, alternate
Rega Engelsberg, alternate

Young Friends
Patricia Clark
Josie Jenks
Judy Ashkenazy
Bill Acord
Jeffrey Gritzner
Jane Wells

Young Friends Counselors
Clarence Cuninghame
Benjamin Seaver
Walt Raitt, alternate

Young Friends Corresponding Secretaries
North: Larry James
Bav Area: George Milliken
South: Mark Spoelstra

Y.F. Planning for 1957 Yearly Meeting

Larry James
another to be appointed

Representatives on Interim Committee
Bill Acord (college)
Sue Freedman (high school)

Y.F. Planning for Americas Conference
Josie Jenks
Bill Acord, alternate

Richard Broughton suggested that another year the names be posted a day in advance in order to give Friends time to consider additions or changes.

The reading clerk read the minute from the Discipline Committee, which was APPROVED as follows:

The Discipline Committee understands its assignment from the Yearly Meeting to be to prepare and print a statement of organization and procedure. Introductory statements will be made that imply our common basis of faith and practice. A group of statements by individuals and Meetings will be included, to encourage discussion toward further development of a Yearly Meeting Discipline.

The reading clerk read the minute from the meeting on Ministry and Oversight. The Yearly Meeting APPROVED the inclusion of this minute in the official minutes in the Bulletin. The minute follows:

Representatives of Monthly Meeting committees on Ministry and Oversight, meeting August 18, 1956, considered how we may best deepen our yearly meeting for worship and conduct our yearly meeting for business more closely in the spirit of worship.

We recognize that the best preparation is in the life of our own meetings for worship and for business at home.

This afternoon as we considered this problem some messages came to the group that we should like to share with you:

"A meeting for worship is a time when each of us becomes silent in order to hear God speaking within us, rather than a time for expressing our own thoughts. As we listen to God, we learn, in the same spirit, to listen to each other, with love, with tenderness, and with understanding."

One Friend said, "After a beautiful message I would like to have time to meditate on it — and there comes another beautiful message which distracts my thought and makes it more difficult for me to meditate on either."

"The meeting for worship is a time for deep self-searching. If this is remembered, there will be restraint in speaking."

Let us remember that the unique method of Friends' meeting for business is based on the belief that each one has within him the light of God with which he sees some aspect of truth from where he stands. In our discussions for business we make this search together. Let us listen to each other seeking this kernel of truth, and allowing an interval of quiet after each contribution to see the problem and our own contribution in this new light.

The following Queries (from "On Not Speaking in Meeting" in the *Friends Journal* of June 25, 1956) may be helpful in directing our attention to the solution of this problem of creative participation in our meetings:

- 1) Is what I have to say important to the meeting and not merely to me?
- 2) Is it pertinent to the subject under discussion?
- 3) Does it add to and develop what has been said, or merely repeat in my words the insights already presented?
- 4) Why do I feel impelled to say this? Am I trying to "sway the meeting," or to build up my own personal

prestige, to advance my particular concerns, or am I acutely sensitive to the spirit of the meeting and willing to make my contribution with humility and a genuine desire to serve?

5) In discussions of controversial questions, can I express my point of view with a spirit of good will, of acceptance of the other person, and in a manner consistent with our basic belief in "that of God in every man?"

6) In the event that I have spent time and thought in the preparation of a contribution to a particular meeting, am I capable of forgoing the opportunity to express my opinions?

7) Am I able to contribute by listening in a friendly spirit? Do I add to the spiritual atmosphere of a meeting by my prayerful attention, or do annoyance, frustration, or personal bias prevent me from making my best contributions?

Christopher Nicholson spoke on the hope for a Friends Center in Honolulu which would give opportunity for the study of race relations, labor management relations, and many projects.

Mildred Burck suggested sending letters to Robert and Lyra Dann and to Margaret Gibbins.

Floyd Schmoie presented the regrets of Robert and Lyra Dann and Catherine Cox that they could not be with us and proposed a letter to Honolulu Meeting expressing appreciation of Christopher Nicholson's presence with us and encouraging the development of a Friends Center. The Meeting APPROVED such a letter.

Bob Barns read the letter to be sent to the Montgomery Improvement Association. The Meeting APPROVED the letter.

Ben Seaver presented his concern about compulsory training in R.O.T.C. in the state universities. Compulsory training in R.O.T.C., especially in peace time is an infringement of conscience. There are always a few young men who can not go to the state university because if they did go and take the training their draft boards would question their conscientious objection to the draft later. The 1936 ruling of

the Supreme Court which no longer applies should be changed. This concern was presented in the hope that the Monthly Meeting representatives at Yearly Meeting would take it home to their Meetings as something to work on.

The Meeting APPROVED an answer to Wilbur Hoff's letter describing his community program in India. It also APPROVED a letter of thanks to the management of the Y.M.C.A. camp where we were meeting. It EXPRESSED APPRECIATION of the clerks. And, finally, it APPROVED the delegation of the matter of signatures on the Yearly Meeting account to the Finance Committee.

The session closed with silent worship.

* * *

At the rise of the meeting for worship Sunday morning, Jane Baumann, chairman of the Epistle Committee, read the Pacific Yearly Meeting Epistle, which was ACCEPTED WITH APPROVAL by the Meeting.

The presiding clerk then read this closing minute:

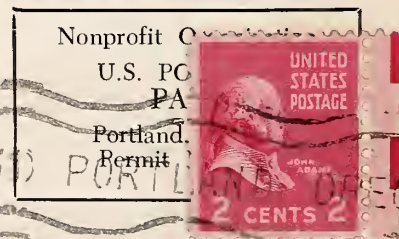
We close this 1956 meeting of Pacific Yearly Meeting among the redwoods near La Honda, California, with happiness that we have been together and know each other better, and with some realization of how much more we have to learn: from our business meetings here, to unite to further the common purpose of Yearly Meeting; to differ, with the inner discipline we each can give only to ourselves; to remember that God is available. We would to repeat this from the minute of the Committee on Ministry and Oversight: "As we listen to God, we learn, in the same spirit, to listen to each other, with love, with tenderness, and with understanding."

We adjourn to meet at Linfield College, McMinnville, Oregon, August 21 to 25, 1957.

RUTH SCHMOIE, presiding clerk

CATHERINE BRUNER, recording clerk

FRIENDS BULLETIN
2814 N. E. 27th Avenue
PORTLAND 12, OREGON



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San Luis Obispo, Calif.